GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:178
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Regulations for LNG
Mahato Shri Bidyut Baran;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization has constituted an expert committee to draft regulations for installation of LNG fuel tank and dispensing stations;
(b) if so, the terms of reference, composition along with the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report to the Government;
(c) whether the Petronet LNG Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited and some private Motor companies propose to launch LNG fuelled bus in the country and if so, the details thereof along with salient features of the same;
(d) the time by which the said bus is likely to be certified for commercial use; and
(e) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote green fuel in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.178 ASKED BY KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH AND SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO, MPs TO BE ANSWERED ON NOVEMBER 28, 2016
(a) & (b): Yes. The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG) has taken an initiative to explore the possibility of usage of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as a transportation fuel in Road Transport sector. MoP&NG has requested Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) to frame relevant safety guidelines for LNG usage for automobile. Accordingly, Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), in the month of August 2016, constituted an expert committee, comprising of a Chairperson, a Member-Secretary and 10 Members to make recommendations in respect of the following -
(i) For amendment in Gas Cylinders Rules, 2004 regarding LNG container for automotive application.
(ii) For amendment in the SMPV (U) Rules, 1981 for setting up of LNG dispensing stations.
The timeline given to the committee for submission of its report is within 3 months.
(c) & (d): Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) alongwith M/s Tata Motors and Indian Oil Corporation Limited have carried out a test run of an LNG fuelled bus on November 8, 2016 in Trivandrum (Kerala). LNG is an ecofriendly fuel with low levels of emissions viz. NOx, SOx and particulate matters as compared to any other automotive fuels. LNG is green fuel as well as more economical in comparison to Diesel. The project is at pilot stage and its commercial operation commencement depends upon requisite clearances.
(e): In order to promote green fuel in the country, the Government has taken various steps as under:
(i) The Government has envisaged to develop additional 15000 Km gas pipelines for completion of National Gas Grid and to increase the availability of natural gas across the country. The Government has taken a historic decision to provide a capital grant of Rs.5176 crore (i.e. 40% of the estimated capital cost of Rs.12,940 Crore) to GAIL for development of a 2539 Km long Jagdishpur-Haldia/Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline (JHBDPL) project, popularly known as the "Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga" of Eastern India. This project will ensure the availability of clean and eco-friendly fuel, i.e. natural gas to the Eastern part of the country.
(ii) The Government has given priority in allocation of domestic gas (the cheapest gas available in country) for supply to households in the form of Piped Natural Gas [(PNG(D)] and transport segment in the form of Compressed Natural Gas [(CNG (T)] across the country. Government is meeting 100% gas requirement of PNG (Domestic) and CNG (Transport) segment of the City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks across the country.
(iii) The Government, through Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), is implementing the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme under which, OMCs sell ethanol blended petrol with percentage of ethanol upto 10%.
(iv) The Government has allowed sale of Bio-diesel (B100) by private manufacturers to bulk consumers. Retailing of bio-diesel blended diesel by Public Sector OMCs has started on 10th August, 2015. Bio-diesel blended diesel (B5) is being sold by OMCs in 6 states at more than 3500 retail outlets.
(v) The Government has allowed procurement of ethanol produced from other non-food feedstock's, like cellulosic and lingo cellulosic materials including petrochemical route.
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